Application No.: 09/693,512 Filing Date: October 20, 2000

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for his continued examination of the present application, and for extending an interview to Applicants' representative on September 1, 2010. By way of summary, Claims 14 and 19-22 were pending as of the Final Office Action of July 9, 2010. Applicants have hereby amended Claims 14 and 20, and added new Claim 23. Thus, Claims 14 and 19-23 remain pending for consideration.

Additionally, Applicants have amended the specification to incorporate U.S. Prov. Pat. App. No. 60/160,973, filed November 22, 1999. Support for the amendment may be found on page 2, lines 9-17, incorporating that patent application by reference.

The Office Action rejected Claims 14 and 19-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious in light of U.S. Pat. No. 6,615,212 to Dutta et al. ("Dutta") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,226,675 to Meltzer et al. ("Meltzer") and U.S. Pat. No. 7,483,871 to Herz ("Herz"). For at least the reasons stated herein, Applicants respectfully traverse the Office Action, any characterizations of the claims, specification, or prior art, and any official notice taken explicitly or implicitly. However, to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended the claims to further clarify their scope, and respectfully submit that Dutta, Meltzer, and Herz, alone or in combination with other prior art of record, do not teach or render obvious all the limitations of Claims 14 and 19-22.

With regard to Claim 14, for at least the reasons discussed during the interview, the cited prior art fails to teach or render obvious at least "transmitting data in a call accounting record format to the hotel property management system, the data in the call accounting record format configured to authorize and bill an account associated with the user in accordance with data in the XML command."

Claim 19, which depends from Claim 14, is believed to be patentable at least for the reasons discussed above with regard to Claim 14, and by reason of the additional features recited in the claim.

With regard to Claim 20, for at least the reasons discussed during the interview, the cited prior art fails to teach or render obvious at least "transmitting data, in a format specific to the hotel property system, to the hotel property management system to authorize and bill an account associated with the user in accordance with data in the XML command."

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Claims 21-22, which depend from Claim 20, are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to Claim 20, and by reason of the additional features recited in the claims.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 is overcome. If there are any remaining issues that may be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed below in the signature.

No Disclaimers or Disavowals

Although the present communication may include alterations to the application or claims, or characterizations of claim scope or referenced art, Applicant is not conceding in this application that previously pending claims are not patentable over the cited references. Rather, any alterations or characterizations are being made to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue at a later date any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure, including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or any parent, child or related prosecution history shall not reasonably infer that Applicant has made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present application.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: October 8, 2010

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